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Taum Sauk Mountain State Park

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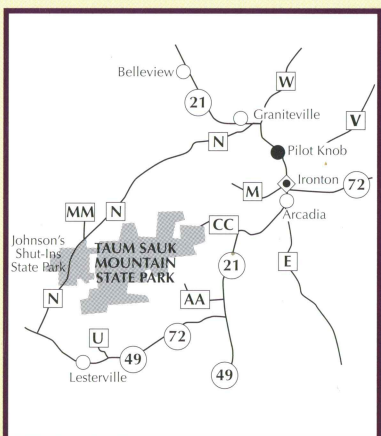
Taum Sauk Mountain State Park

Ironton, Mo.

Make the great escape to Missouri's wilderness – Taum Sauk Mountain State Park. The park provides 7,448 acres of solitude amid unspoiled land with a wilderness quality hard to find in today's world.

Taum Sauk Mountain State Park is located in the St. Francois Mountains, one of the most rugged and scenic areas of the state. Almost 1.5 billion years ago, volcanic eruptions of hot ash settled and cooled to form rhyolite. Erosion has left only the roots of these mountains behind, now dotted by oak-hickory forest and rocky glades.

Taum Sauk Mountain literally stands above others as the highest point in Missouri, rising to 1,772 feet. An easy walk leads visitors to the top. From there, the moderately rugged three-mile Mina Sauk Falls Trail continues to the tallest wet-weather waterfall in Missouri. Mina Sauk Falls drops 132 feet over a series of rocky ledges. A portion of this trail also serves as part of the Taum Sauk Section of the Ozark Trail. Farther down the trail lies Devil's Tollgate, an eight-foot-wide passage through volcanic rhyolite standing 30 feet high. The Ozark Trail continues on to Johnson's Shut-Ins State Park, a distance of 12.8 miles.



For more information, contact **Taum Sauk Mountain State Park**, c/o Johnson's Shut-Ins State Park, HCR 1, Box 126, Middlebrook, MO 63656, 573-546-2450. For information on other Missouri state parks, call toll free at 800-334-6946 (voice) or 800-379-2419 (Telecommunications Device for the Deaf).

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WEB SITE: www.mostateparks.com



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